Statistics Canada

2017–18

Departmental Plan

The Honourable Navdeep Bains, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Innovation, Science and
Economic Development

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Minister's message

Our 2017–18 Departmental Plan provides parliamentarians and Canadians with information on what we do and the results we are trying to achieve during the upcoming year. To improve reporting to Canadians, we are introducing a new, simplified report to replace the Report on Plans and Priorities.

The title of the report has been changed to reflect its purpose: to communicate our annual performance goals and the financial and human resources forecast to deliver those results. The report has also been restructured to tell a clearer, more straightforward and balanced story of the actual results we are trying to achieve, while continuing to provide transparency on how tax payers' dollars will be spent. We describe our programs and services for Canadians, our priorities for 2017–18, and how our work will fulfill our departmental mandate commitments and the government's priorities.

Through the programs of the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Portfolio, we are working together to deliver Canada's Innovation Agenda—a whole-of-government initiative to position Canada as a global centre for innovation, create better jobs and opportunities for the middle class, drive growth across all industries and improve the living standards of all Canadians. The work of the Portfolio also includes commercializing more research and ideas; providing more Canadians with the skills to participate in a global and digital economy; helping small businesses grow through innovation, access to capital and trade; promoting increased tourism to Canada; and supporting scientific research and the integration of scientific considerations in our investment and policy choices.

It is my pleasure to present the Departmental Plan for Statistics Canada for 2017–18.

The Honourable Navdeep Bains
Minister of Innovation, Science
and Economic Development

Chief Statistician's message

Canadians have come to know Statistics Canada as a world-renowned statistical agency that provides high-quality, timely and credible data that respond to their highest-priority information needs.

While Canadians use our data each and every day, most do not know about the innovative work and experimentation that we do—using satellite imagery to gather data on crop yields, web scraping to collect price information and crowdsourcing to map buildings—or that we are the best in the world for online census collection.

Both Canada and the world are evolving: the privacy landscape continues to change, Canadians are harder to reach for surveys, and the availability of private and public sources of administrative data is growing. Our users demand more detailed data on complex and quickly changing phenomena. In this dynamic environment, the need for more targeted, timely and detailed data, and for evidence-driven policy making, continues to expand.

A modern, sophisticated society requires a strong national statistical office. Accordingly, we are modernizing our infrastructure and putting in place the talent, methodology and legislative framework to meet the country's needs for today and for the future.

Finally, I am pleased that Statistics Canada is joining other federal departments and agencies in celebrating the country's 150th birthday. The agency will be engaging with Canadians through an ambitious Canada 150 program, which includes a speaker series, the Canada 150 Young Statisticians' Contest, a thematic blog and dozens of releases that depict Canada's history. The Canada 150 program will be conducted with a broad range of partners across the country, who will join us in "telling Canada's story in numbers."

I invite you to visit the agency's website, www.statcan.gc.ca, to learn more about our many information products. Your feedback is always welcome.

The original version was signed by

Anil Arora
Chief Statistician of Canada

Plans at a glance

Statistics Canada has an ambitious agenda for 2017–18 and beyond. We plan to address the information needs of governments, businesses and individuals for trusted data that will help improve the well-being of Canadians.

The agency fulfills its mandate through its core program and by meeting specific information needs through cost-recovery work. The core program produces statistics, focused research and analysis that Canadians need to assess the performance of the country. This includes data on the population, the labour force, educational attainment and the gross domestic product.

Statistics Canada collaborates with federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, and other organizations to adapt its programs in response to evolving information needs and to remain relevant.

The essential information needs that Statistics Canada is addressing include those related to economic stability, Indigenous peoples, the health of Canadians and that of the next generation, the production of vital census data, the environment, and the provision of access to data to help guide the decisions of policy makers on topics such as human capital and labour market participation. Highlights of the agency's work planned over the next three years are described below.

Statistics on financial wealth and stability

One of the government's priorities is to support the social and economic security of Canadians. To support this priority, Statistics Canada will enhance the quality of its economic and financial data, as well as improve their timeliness.

The global financial crisis of 2008 highlighted the need for policy makers to have access to more comprehensive data to better assess the country's economic situation and to determine how to address it. By enhancing its financial and wealth data, Statistics Canada will help improve the surveillance of the financial system and the development of monetary and fiscal policy.

Children's health

Good information is critical to understanding the development and the physical and mental health of children. To address this information need, Statistics Canada developed the Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth. This survey, which is in its pilot phase, will collect information on a range of factors likely to affect the physical and mental health of children and youth.

Pathways through the postsecondary education system and labour market outcomes

Statistics Canada will provide the information needed to better understand the paths that postsecondary students take through the education system. The agency's information will also cover the transition of postsecondary students into the labour market, and their employment and income over time. These data will show students how others in their programs have fared in the labour market and which jurisdictions offer good opportunities. Governments and businesses will also have more information on the socio-demographic characteristics of graduates, expected skills by field of study, factors affecting program completion and where students settle after graduation.

Census of Population and Census of Agriculture

The federal government's decision to reinstate the long-form census was followed by a historic 98.4% level of participation in the Census of Population. As a result, Statistics Canada will provide high-quality information on virtually all communities across Canada. This will help users of these data make informed, evidence-based decisions.

In February 2017, Statistics Canada will release the first results from the 2016 Census of Population. Additional results from both the short- and long-form census will be published throughout the 2017–18 fiscal year, along with data from the 2016 Census of Agriculture.

The 2016 Census of Population was the most successful census in Canadian history. The agency, therefore, plans on adapting some of the census improvements for other surveys. For example, the agency will use the Census Program's flexible survey operating system for its approximately 350 surveys, replacing the lower-performing technology used in its other programs.

Access to data

Research based on accurate and reliable information supports innovation and open government. It also contributes to the development of evidence-based policies that foster the well-being of Canadians and a healthy Canadian economy. Therefore, the agency is committed to ensuring that academics and policy researchers can use Statistics Canada data to their fullest potential.

In 2017–18 and beyond, Statistics Canada's microdata access programs will continue to increase the volume of data available to researchers through various venues. The agency will also diversify the data formats available, while protecting the confidentiality and privacy of respondents.

As the service provider for the Government of Canada's Open Government portal, Statistics Canada continues to increase public access to government information by making its own data available on the portal and by making the portal easier for Canadians to use. Improvements include new data visualization capabilities for open maps, open data, open information and proactive disclosure.

Modernizing the informatics technology infrastructure

Statistics Canada is working in close collaboration with Shared Services Canada on a plan to migrate the agency's data holdings to a modern, state-of-the-art enterprise data centre. Integral to this plan are the further strengthening of overall security and the protection of critical informatics technology from cyber threats.

Environment statistics

Statistics Canada is expanding its environment statistics program to cover the production and use of clean technologies. This will help track progress toward the government's clean technology objectives and support the Innovation Agenda.

Indigenous peoples

Statistics Canada will collect new information about First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit in the 2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey as well as additional information on the labour market situation of Inuit living in Nunavut, providing insight into the situation of Indigenous peoples and informing a wide range of policies and programs.

Innovation and experimentation

Statistics Canada has a long history of innovation and experimentation. The agency has a number of initiatives underway, including using satellite imagery to gather data on crop yields, web scraping to collect price information and crowdsourcing to map buildings.

For more information on Statistics Canada's plans, priorities and planned results, see the "Planned results" section of this report.

Raison d'être, mandate and role: who we are and what we do

Raison d'être

Strong data and evidence are crucial to good decision making. All parts of society—governments, businesses and individuals—count on high-quality, timely and detailed statistics to make decisions. Among its many applications[i], statistical information is used to draw electoral boundaries, determine international tariffs, inform trade negotiations, analyze economic performance, select sites for schools and public transportation, and support immigration policies and programs.

Mandate and role

Statistics Canada produces data that help Canadians better understand their country—its population, resources, economy, society and culture. In Canada, providing statistics is a federal responsibility. As Canada's central statistical office, Statistics Canada is legislated to serve this function for the whole of Canada and each of the provinces and territories. The agency also conducts a census of the population and a census of agriculture every five years, providing a detailed picture of Canadian society. Statistics Canada operates under the authority of the Statistics Act[ii] and is committed to protecting the confidentiality of the information with which it is entrusted.

Our mission

Serving Canada with high-quality statistical information that matters

The agency promotes the quality and coherence of Canada's statistics through collaboration with international organizations, federal departments and agencies, and the provinces and territories. As a member of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the agency endorses the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics[iii], which help define what constitutes a good system of official statistics and what role that system should play in national governments.

For more general information about the agency, see the "Supplementary information" section of this report. For more information on the agency's organizational mandate letter commitments, see the Ministers' mandate letters on the Prime Minister of Canada's website.[iv]

Operating context: conditions affecting our work

A developed, democratic country such as Canada requires vast amounts of information to function effectively. Statistics provide Canadians with vital information to help monitor inflation, promote economic growth, plan cities and roads, adjust pensions, and develop employment and social programs. They help governments, businesses and individuals make informed decisions.

The value placed on data by every segment of society is growing at an exponential pace. At the same time, new tools and new computing power are emerging and multiplying the volume and types of information available.

As the demand for information increases along with its importance and availability, privacy concerns, call-screening technology and the busy lives of Canadians are making it harder to reach and obtain information from households. As a result, the agency is continually seeking out new and innovative approaches to meet emerging data needs.

As it innovates and modernizes, the agency will be well positioned to play a more active role in guiding and shaping this information age.

A key component of modernization will also involve extensive consultation with Canadians to ensure continued alignment with the needs and priorities of the country.

Key risks: things that could affect our ability to achieve our plans and results

Statistics Canada must remain relevant and respond to the needs of both data users and respondents. The loss of relevance and responsiveness is considered one of the agency's key risks.

The expectations of data users are rapidly evolving. Users require more sophisticated and timely data and analyses, while respondents face increased demands on their time. To remain relevant to users and to encourage survey participation among respondents, the agency must remain connected, adopt innovative methodological approaches, be fully mindful of respondent burden, and communicate the importance of the data it is collecting and releasing.

Trusted information is essential to decision making by governments, businesses and individuals. The production of reliable statistics, however, depends on the willing participation of respondents, and Canadians are more willing to provide their information to Statistics Canada because they are confident that the agency will keep it safe. Therefore, the potential for statistical errors and breaches in the confidentiality of information are among the agency's key risks.

If users are assured that the agency's statistics are timely, credible and of high quality, they will be less inclined to seek alternative, less-reliable data sources to obtain their information. Similarly, if respondents are assured that the information provided to the agency is kept secure and confidential, they will be more willing to participate in surveys.

To address these risks, the agency must continue to invest in and rely on the expertise of its employees. It must also continue to invest in robust infrastructure—both technological and methodological—to ensure the reliability, timeliness, scalability and security of its statistics.

Risk management allows the agency to meet Canadians' current and emerging information needs efficiently and effectively. The risks described above are articulated in detail in the agency's Corporate Risk Profile, which was developed as part of the Integrated Risk Management Framework. Within this framework, mitigation strategies are documented, managed and monitored across the agency.

Key risks

Risks	Risk response strategy	Link to the department's Programs (or Core Responsibilities)	Link to mandate letter commitments or to government-wide and departmental priorities (as applicable)
1) **Risk** – The agency is unable to meet the rising expectations of stakeholders	• Implementing and monitoring the Statistics Canada and Shared Services Canada plan to address IT infrastructure challenges • Planning and delivering a proactive strategy for data IT infrastructure • Integrated HR and business planning, recruitment strategies, learning and development curriculum and talent management • Reporting on consultations with stakeholders and actions to address emerging needs	Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics Program 3: Censuses Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services Internal Services	Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Mandate Letter[v]: • Improve the quality of publicly available data in Canada. This will require working with Statistics Canada, the President of the Treasury Board and other departments and agencies to develop an Open Data initiative that would consider big data and make more of the data paid for by Canadians available to the public **Government-wide priorities:** • New results and delivery approach • Making evidence-based decisions • Strengthening the Public Service…provide evidence-based advice • Growing the middle class, climate change, economic growth through innovation, the increase and diversification of trade and foreign investment, better social and economic security for Canadians, improving the situation and living conditions of Indigenous peoples, and a modern, sustainable and resilient infrastructure (Budget 2016)[vi] **Departmental priorities:** • Close data gaps, support the work priorities of policy departments and help measure program outcomes (2017–18 Departmental Plan)

Risks	Risk response strategy	Link to the department's Programs (or Core Responsibilities)	Link to mandate letter commitments or to government-wide and departmental priorities (as applicable)
2) **Risk –** Statistical methods and techniques are misaligned with current and future societal expectations	• Consideration of a holistic transformation in approach in communicating with Canadians • Research/adoption of more modern statistical methods to combine different sources of information to produce and disseminate more data more quickly • Look to increased uses of alternative data sources	Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics Program 3: Censuses Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services	**Departmental priorities:** • Continue to research innovative ways to conduct surveys, respond to new data needs and reduce response burden • Diversify the data formats available (2017–18 Departmental Plan)
3) **Risk –** A major error occurs in a key statistical report or program	• Perform thorough analyses and systematic data evaluation, and develop useful intelligence on the subject matter • Test processes adequately when introducing changes, and adopt proper information-management practices • Planning and delivering a proactive strategy for data IT infrastructure	Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics Program 3: Censuses Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services	Not applicable

Risks	Risk response strategy	Link to the department's Programs (or Core Responsibilities)	Link to mandate letter commitments or to government-wide and departmental priorities (as applicable)
4) **Risk –** A material breach of confidential or sensitive information occurs	• Carry out continuous review of dissemination release procedures and processes, with a view to ensuring that information remains fully protected until official release time • Continue to diligently apply the stringent protection measures defined in the Policy on Official Release • Regular assessment of IT Security posture to ensure alignment with GC IT Strategy • Provide training and awareness for Statistics Canada employees on matters related to security of classified and designated information	Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics Program 3: Censuses Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services	**Departmental priorities:** • Further strengthening of overall security and the protection of critical informatics technology from cyber-threats (2017–18 Departmental Plan)

Planned results: what we want to achieve this year and beyond

Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics

Description

Through the Economic and Environmental Statistics program, Statistics Canada creates a trusted, relevant and comprehensive source of information on the entire spectrum of Canada's economy to inform public debate on economic issues; support economic policy development, implementation and evaluation; and guide business decision making. These statistics support various agreements and statutory requirements specified by legislation or regulations in such areas as taxation.

Program highlights

This program produces monthly and annual measures of the gross domestic product, the Consumer Price Index, indicators of retail and wholesale trade, Canada's merchandise export and import statistics, estimates of agricultural income and expenditures, transportation statistics, and statistics relevant to the analysis of relationships between human activity and the environment.

Planning highlights

The Economic and Environmental Statistics program will not only continue to publish and disseminate its core set of economic and environmental statistics, but it will also expand significantly in 2017–18 to support several of the government's key priorities. These include growing the middle class; climate change; economic growth through innovation; the increase and diversification of trade and foreign investment; better social and economic security for Canadians; and modern, sustainable and resilient infrastructure.

Information on the disparities among households by income quintile, age, household type and other factors can help us understand the economy. While household surveys have yielded this type of information in the past, measurements used in household surveys differ from those in economic surveys and made it difficult to align these data with macroeconomic statistics.

In 2016, Statistics Canada released timely estimates of wealth distribution across Canadian households. The information was released within an integrated framework that conforms to international standards, and it therefore provided a more complete view of the risks associated with rising inequality and the implications for financial stability in Canada.

In 2017–18, the agency will expand this wealth dataset to include a longer time series, as well as information on income distribution and consumption across Canadian households. These data will support the government's priority to better understand and grow the middle class. In addition, the agency will develop a provisional seniors' price index and an options analysis

regarding the construction of such an index. The index will serve to better track the changes in prices that affect seniors.

Changes in technology, trade agreements, multinational organizational structures and government policy have significantly altered the way businesses operate. Today, many businesses operate on a global rather than domestic scale. The agency must adapt its data on national income and trade to better capture the increasingly global activities and connectedness of businesses, governments and individuals.

Statistics Canada has developed and produces a rich set of data to track Canada's transactions with the rest of the world. These data have served well over the years but risk losing their relevance in the context of today's highly interconnected world. It is no longer enough to report the cross-border flow of goods and services, or the type, origin and destination of these goods and services. Policy makers need to know more about importers and exporters, Canada's value added in the global value chain, Canada's exposure to global financial markets, and the impact of foreign direct investment—both in Canada and abroad.

Over the last three years, Statistics Canada developed a number of innovative statistical products to provide a new perspective on Canada in the global economy. These products also support the government's priority of increasing and diversifying trade and foreign investment.

Clean growth

Statistics Canada's environment statistics program is expanding to cover the production and use of clean technologies, which are considered an important component of green growth.

With this priority in mind, Statistics Canada partnered with Global Affairs Canada to develop and produce detailed statistics to support trade negotiations with the United States on softwood lumber. The project included accelerating the dissemination schedule to ensure the timely release of these statistics. In addition, the agency is enhancing its statistics on manufacturing and logging, and providing technical assistance on manufacturing and trade data to Global Affairs Canada.

The agency is developing a statistical framework to provide information regularly on the clean technology sector's economic contributions to the Canadian economy. This framework will help the government track progress toward its clean technology objectives and support the Innovation Agenda. It will include a natural resources satellite account, a clean technology satellite account and an updated Survey of Environmental Goods and Services.

Statistics Canada's Economic and Environmental Statistics program produces comprehensive information that supports economic policy development, guides business decision making and informs the public about the economy. The program continues to take steps to manage and

reduce response burden for small and medium-sized businesses. In addition, the program is increasing its use of online survey questionnaires and improving overall relevance.

Statistics Canada has a number of mechanisms to remain relevant and respond to the evolving needs of users, including:

- frequent consultations with data users to understand their evolving needs,
- a rigorous program of audits and evaluations to adjust and improve programs, and
- an annual agency-wide planning session to prioritize activities.

With these mechanisms, the agency's programs can learn from past experience and adapt as needed. In addition, the agency has a comprehensive monitoring system to ensure that it continues to evolve and remain relevant.

In 2015–16, Statistics Canada's Audit and Evaluation Branch completed an audit of the Canadian Centre for Data Development and Economic Research[vii]. The audit report presented findings and recommendations that have been incorporated into the Economic and Environmental Statistics Program's planned activities. These include, for example, improving documentation and reviewing the structure of the centre to reflect increased demand and use.

All risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report are applicable to this program.

Planned results

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and public and private sector organizations use economic and environmental statistics for monitoring the economy, for policy development and for research	Number of analytical and data products accessed**	4 million website access	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and public and private sector organizations are informed about economic and environmental statistics for monitoring the economy, for policy development and for research	Percentage of statistical programs with up-to-date metadata in the Integrated Metadatabase	100% of all statistical programs have a rating of "fully compliant" for all metadata elements specified in the Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata except for accuracy tables, and variables and their related statistical classifications or lists.***	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Minor Deficiencies 160 (75%) surveys fully compliant and 53 (25%) had minor deficiencies
	Percentage of Technical reference guides up-to-date	100% of the mandatory technical reference guides are fully compliant and 100% of a newly identified technical reference guides have a roadmap	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	100% Fully Compliant
	Response rate to surveys	85%	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
	Percentage of key estimates meeting expected accuracy	90%	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*

* Actual Results identified as Not available, means the indicator did not exist for that fiscal year.

** Definition of indicator encompasses web trend analysis this includes reporting on webpage views (number of access to a page (URL)) and downloads (number of times a specified file was accessed (.pdf, exe., xlsx, etc.) – this data excludes Statistics Canada employees at work and identified robots, spiders and crawlers.

*** Statistics Canada's Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata specifies all the metadata elements to be reported for each of Statistics Canada's surveys and statistical programs, including measures of accuracy, variables and classifications. An exemption for reporting metadata for accuracy tables (e.g., tables of coefficients of variation), variables and classifications was approved by the Methods and Standards Committee for 2017–18.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
129,398,587	129,398,587	129,318,027	129,336,901

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
1,376	1,373	1,372

Planned spending in each year includes funding for the enhancing Canada's financial and wealth statistics for improved financial system surveillance and economic policy development, for which the funding becomes permanent in 2021–22. This increase in funding is offset by temporary allocations from the Statistical Infrastructure Program for short term projects and cyclical surveys.

Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics

Description

Through the Socio-economic Statistics program, Statistics Canada provides integrated information and relevant analysis on the social and socio-economic characteristics of individuals, families and households, as well as on the major factors that affect their well-being. This information is used to inform public debate on socio-economic issues; to support social policy development, implementation and evaluation; and to guide public and private decision making. These statistics support requirements specified by legislation or regulations in such areas as labour, immigration, official languages and employment equity.

Program highlights

This program produces statistics on employment and the labour market, how graduates fare in the labour market, the health of Canadians, the integration of immigrants into Canadian society and the various pathways taken through the justice system.

Planning highlights

To provide information with respect to areas of interest to a range of data users including government, the Socio-economic Statistics program will develop a roadmap for the delivery of its social statistics programs in the coming years.

One of the government's main priorities is improving the situation and living conditions of Indigenous peoples. Statistics Canada will collect new information about First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit in the 2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey. The survey will focus on the participation of Indigenous peoples in the economy and collect information on their health, language, income, housing and mobility conditions. This information will provide valuable insight into the situation of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit in Canada and inform the policies and programs of many organizations, including federal, provincial and territorial governments, and Indigenous governments and organizations.

Statistics Canada will collect additional information on the labour market situation of Inuit living in Nunavut. This information will inform the federal government's obligations for the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. In addition to these initiatives, in October 2017, the agency will release 2016 Census data on the situation and living conditions of Indigenous peoples.

Statistics Canada collects information on the social inclusion and outcomes of immigrants through its integrated statistical program on immigration. In 2017–18, the program will add new and updated information on the economic outcomes of immigrants to the Longitudinal Immigration Database, a project funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. This integrated data source offers a long-term view of the economic integration of immigrants by

specific admission category, such as refugee, skilled worker and family class. With this information, analysts can examine the pathways that immigrants take from non-permanent to permanent resident status.

Another important development is the addition of the immigrant admission category to the 2016 Census database. Data from the 2016 Census on the situation of immigrants will be released in October 2017.

Statistics Canada is enhancing its information on postsecondary education by bringing together data on university, college and apprenticeship programs across the country. This will allow analysts to better understand the pathways postsecondary students take through the education system. This will also provide information on the transition of these students into the labour market, their employment and their income over time. These data will show students how others in their programs have fared in the labour market and which jurisdictions offer good opportunities. Governments and businesses will also have more information on the socio-demographic characteristics of graduates, expected skills by field of study, factors affecting program completion and where students settle after graduation.

The Re-contact with the Justice System project will provide data on why some individuals have no contact or only limited contact with the justice system while others have repeat involvement. The initial project was undertaken with the province of Saskatchewan and will be extended to other jurisdictions in 2017–18. Statistics Canada will expand the scope to include data from other social domains, such as education, the labour market, social services and health. This will provide an enhanced overview of the justice system, as well as information on people who have repeated contacts with justice, health, education and community services.

Physical and mental health of children and youth

Statistics Canada's Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth is in its pilot phase and will collect information on a range of factors likely to affect the physical and mental health of children and youth, including physical and sedentary activity, the use of electronic devices, nutrition, and time spent in school.

Currently, there is a lack of health data about children under the age of 12. To fill this important gap, Statistics Canada, in collaboration with Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada, developed the Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth. This survey will gather information on a range of factors likely to affect the physical and mental health of children and youth. A pilot version of the survey was conducted in 2016, and selected national-level results will be released in 2017. The full survey will be run every three years, starting in 2018–19.

As noted previously, the agency makes use of a number of mechanisms to remain relevant and respond to the evolving needs of users, including a program of audits and evaluations to adjust and improve programs. For example, an audit of the Justice Statistics Program[viii] indicated the need for more formal documentation of processes. Evaluations[ix,x] have pointed out a need for strengthening and formalizing governance models with stakeholders and partners to ensure ongoing relevance. Audit and evaluation findings will be incorporated into the plans for the program going forward.

All risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report are applicable to this program.

Planned results

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and public and private sector organizations use socio-economic statistics for policy development and for research.	Number of analytical and data products accessed**	8 million website access	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
Canadians and public and private sector organizations are informed about socio-economic statistics for policy development and for research.	Percentage of statistical programs with up-to-date metadata in the Integrated Metadatabase	100% of all statistical programs have a rating of "fully compliant" for all metadata elements specified in the Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata except for accuracy tables, and variables and their related statistical classifications or lists.***	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Minor Deficiencies, 50 (78%) deemed fully compliant and 14 (22%) had minor deficiencies

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and public and private sector organizations are informed about socio-economic statistics for policy development and for research.	Percentage of Technical reference guides up-to-date	100% of the mandatory technical reference guides are fully compliant and 100% of a newly identified technical reference guides have a roadmap	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	100% Fully Compliant
Canadians and public and private sector organizations are informed about socio-economic statistics for policy development and for research.	Response rate to surveys	70%	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
Canadians and public and private sector organizations are informed about socio-economic statistics for policy development and for research.	Percentage of key estimates meeting expected accuracy	90%	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*

* Actual Results identified as Not available, means the indicator did not exist for that fiscal year.

** Definition of indicator encompasses web trend analysis this includes reporting on webpage views (number of access to a page (URL)) and downloads (number of times a specified file was accessed (.pdf, exe., xlsx, etc.) – this data excludes Statistics Canada employees at work and identified robots, spiders and crawlers.

*** Statistics Canada's Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata specifies all the metadata elements to be reported for each of Statistics Canada's surveys and statistical programs, including measures of accuracy, variables and classifications. An exemption for reporting metadata for accuracy tables (e.g., tables of coefficients of variation), variables and classifications was approved by the Methods and Standards Committee for 2017–18.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
99,153,760	99,153,760	98,621,712	101,281,556

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
1,096	1,090	1,112

The decrease in planned spending and FTEs from 2017–18 to 2018–19 mainly represents ending of temporary allocations from Statistical Infrastructure Program. The increase in planned spending and FTEs from 2018–19 to 2019–20 mainly represents an increase in funding related to the profile of the Survey of Financial Security which provides a comprehensive picture of the net worth of Canadians.

Program 3: Censuses

Description

Through the Census programs, Statistics Canada provides information on changes in the Canadian population, in demographic characteristics, and in the agricultural sector. This information serves as a basis for public and private decision making, and research and analysis in areas of concern to Canadians. The program includes the Census of Population and the Census of Agriculture. Both the Census of Population and the Census of Agriculture are mandated by the Statistics Act; the Census of Population is also mandated in the Constitution Act.

Planning highlights

The federal government's decision to reinstate the long-form census was followed by a historic 98.4% level of participation in the Census of Population, higher than the previous two censuses. Canadians' response to the 2016 long form was the best ever recorded, at 97.8%. As a result, Statistics Canada will provide high-quality information on virtually all communities across Canada, helping to inform evidence-based decision making for all levels of government, businesses and other organizations. Census information is used in planning services such as schools, public transportation, senior housing, and police and fire services.

Census of Population

The census is a critical and unique source of data at low levels of geography and for small populations. Because it is conducted every five years, it is possible to compare results to see what changes to Canada's population and society have occurred over time.

Census of Population counts are critical in producing demographic estimates after each census. Every year, the federal government uses these estimates to distribute millions of dollars in federal transfers to provinces and territories. Key components of these distributions are health and social transfers, territorial formula financing, and equalization payments. In addition, the rebased demographic estimates are used to determine the number of electoral districts, as per the Fair Representation Act.

Beginning in February 2017, Statistics Canada will release results from the 2016 Census of Population short and long forms, as well as the 2016 Census of Agriculture.

An accelerated release schedule is planned to provide Canadians with results in a more timely fashion than for any previous Census of Population. The first results will be published on February 8, 2017, with the release of data on population and dwelling counts. All major data releases will be completed by the end of 2017.

Census of Agriculture

To reduce respondent burden, Statistics Canada offers farmers flexibility in how and when they respond to the Census of Agriculture. For the 2016 Census of Agriculture, 55% of responses from farm operators were received through an electronic questionnaire, five times the rate recorded for the 2011 collection.

The first release of results from the 2016 Census of Agriculture is planned for May 10, 2017. The Census of Agriculture is the only tool that can provide farmers, their associations and governments with financial and production information at a very fine level of geographical detail. Responding to the needs of these users, and thanks to the participation of Canadian farm operators, Statistics Canada will be able to publish high-quality data that will include, for the first time, information on technology use, direct marketing practices, succession planning, farm practices and land features, along with renewable-energy-producing systems.

These statistics will be used by policy makers to develop stronger agricultural policies that provide better support for farmers and promote the competitiveness of the Canadian agricultural industry.

Given the significant scope of the census, Statistics Canada begins planning well in advance of collection. Efforts are now underway for the 2021 Census. Before each census, Statistics Canada conducts an extensive user consultation and testing program. Data users and interested parties across Canada are asked for their views on the type and extent of information that they believe should be available from the census. The goal is to ensure that Statistics Canada takes account of emerging social and economic trends and, where appropriate, uses the census to shed light on them. Consultations with Canadians on content for 2021 will take place in 2017–18.

In addition, the agency will further refine collection processes to ensure that the 2021 Census Program continues to improve inclusiveness, data quality and efficiency. Statistics Canada, in collaboration with its federal partners, will continue to explore ways to increase the use of administrative data to further reduce respondent burden and costs.

In terms of lessons learned for the Census Program, the agency's Audit and Evaluation Branch evaluated both the Census of Population[xi] and Census of Agriculture[xii] programs in 2015–16. For example, one of the recommendations of the Census of Population evaluation indicated a need to ensure the more timely release of information. For the 2016 Census of Population, the program will disseminate all major releases for the cycle within 18 months of Census Day, an improvement of 10 months compared with the 2011 cycle. Both census programs integrated the findings and recommendations of the evaluation reports into their planning activities.

All risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report are applicable to this program.

Planned results

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and Government policy makers use Census of Population and Census of Agriculture data to make informed decisions.	Number of analytical and data products accessed for the Census of Population**	22.5 million website access	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
Canadians and Government policy makers use Census of Population and Census of Agriculture data to make informed decisions.	Number of analytical and data products accessed for the Census of Agriculture	500,000	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
Canadians and Government policy makers are informed about Census of Population and Census of Agriculture programs to make informed decisions.	Percentage of statistical programs with up-to-date metadata in the Integrated Metadatabase	100% of all statistical programs have a rating of "fully compliant" for all metadata elements specified in the Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata except for accuracy tables, and variables and their related statistical classifications or lists.***	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Minor deficiencies 4 (67%) were fully compliant and 2 (33%) had minor deficiencies

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Canadians and Government policy makers are informed about Census of Population and Census of Agriculture programs to make informed decisions.	Percentage of Technical reference guides up-to-date	100% of the mandatory technical reference guides are fully compliant and 100% of a newly identified technical reference guides have a roadmap	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	100% Fully Compliant

* Actual Results identified as Not available, means the indicator did not exist for that fiscal year.

** Definition of indicator encompasses web trend analysis this includes reporting on webpage views (number of access to a page (URL)) and downloads (number of times a specified file was accessed (.pdf, exe., xlsx, etc.) – this data excludes Statistics Canada employees at work and identified robots, spiders and crawlers.

*** Statistics Canada's Directive on Documenting Statistical Metadata specifies all the metadata elements to be reported for each of Statistics Canada's surveys and statistical programs, including measures of accuracy, variables and classifications. An exemption for reporting metadata for accuracy tables (e.g., tables of coefficients of variation), variables and classifications was approved by the Methods and Standards Committee for 2017–18.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)*

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
52,610,877	52,610,877	15,534,420	8,306,574

*Note: Budgetary Financial Resources for Planned Spending include respendable revenue. Totals may differ within and between tables because of rounding.

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
497	136	55

Spending fluctuations between years are caused by the cyclical nature of the 2016 Census Program, for which activity peaked in 2016-17. The Census Program is now winding down and focusing on completing processing of returns, continue data quality studies, disseminate results, and to complete evaluations of the 2016 Census of Population and Agriculture. Funding for the 2021 Census of Population and the 2021 Census of Agriculture has not yet been approved which amplifies the decrease in the overall Census Program funding.

Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure

Description

Through the Statistical Infrastructure program, Statistics Canada administers activities and services that support a strong statistical system. These activities and services include development of sound statistical methodology, standardized concepts and classifications, development and provision of information about the agency's surveys and statistical programs; and the development and maintenance of registers of enterprises and addresses for statistical purposes. The activities and services also include data-collection for Statistics Canada's surveys, the production of Statistics Canada's catalogued publications, online databases; and dissemination through Statistics Canada's official release vehicle. As well as the co-ordination of those aspects of the agency's Integrated Strategic Planning Process, which ensures the continuity and quality maintenance of programs.

Planning highlights

Statistics Canada will make data more accessible to Canadians. The agency will modernize its dissemination model by better organizing its data holdings, simplifying its product line, simplifying discovery and navigation, and introducing a common output database for aggregate statistics. The Statistical Infrastructure program will also research methods to disseminate more detailed information to Canadians, while protecting data confidentiality.

Statistics Canada has a strong presence in the international statistical community. The agency works with international organizations and expert groups to gain and share knowledge and insight. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] requires strong statistical underpinnings to ensure good governance and accountable institutions. As a member of the Inter-agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, Statistics Canada will contribute to developing a robust global indicator framework. This work directly supports the Government of Canada's Innovation Agenda and its objectives to have an inclusive and fair Canada, a clean economy, and an open and transparent government.

The Statistical Infrastructure program will provide employees with in-depth training on survey skills and best practices; business, economic and social statistics; and data interpretation and analysis. The program will work closely with other government partners, particularly the Canada School of Public Service and the Privy Council Office, to extend this training to other government employees.

[1] The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development is a set of seventeen sustainable development goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.

In the next three years, the Statistical Infrastructure program will modernize its statistical registers and increase its use of modern geographical approaches and methods to map and present data. It will also explore the possibility of adding information on buildings and people to its statistical registers. These registers currently consist of lists of enterprises and addresses.

The program plans to draw on lessons from the successful 2016 Census to make improvements to its ongoing surveys. Part of this plan is to migrate all of the approximately 350 surveys to the same flexible survey operating system used for the Census Program. This will replace outdated technology and integrate the management of surveys in Statistics Canada's call centres and home-based interviewer workforce. These initiatives will reduce operating costs and allow surveys to be developed in a timelier manner and offered online by 2021.

Crowdsourcing initiative

Statistics Canada initiated a pilot project aimed at examining the potential of crowdsourcing for statistical purposes. The pilot will map buildings and their attributes in the Ottawa–Gatineau region, inviting Canadians to update the physical characteristics of buildings on electronic maps using open-source technologies. So far, this experiment has been met with great enthusiasm.

The program will research innovative ways to conduct surveys, respond to new data needs and reduce response burden. These new approaches are essential to address the decline in response rates and to maintain data accuracy. For instance, the program is looking at different ways to contact respondents, including through social media and semi-customized materials.

The program will expand its use of alternative data sources to replace, complement or supplement surveys. This initiative includes using data collected by the government or private sector, satellite imagery or the Internet. Statistics Canada will continue to enhance its processes to meet current and emerging data needs.

Open data portal

Improvements to the portal include new data visualization capabilities for open maps, open data, open information and proactive disclosure.

As the service provider for the Government of Canada's Open Government portal, Statistics Canada is increasing the public's access to government information by making its own data available on the portal and by making the portal easier for Canadians to use.

In 2017–18, Statistics Canada will continue to maintain and enhance the federal Open Government portal in collaboration with the Treasury Board Secretariat so as to allow for more data and information to be made freely available to Canadians. In addition, the agency will publish

forthcoming results from the 2016 Census of Population and the 2016 Census of Agriculture on the portal.

In 2017–18, the agency will pilot a project to create the Centre of Expertise on Open Government Statistics. The centre will provide a publishing platform for all federal government statistics and will allow departments to benefit from Statistics Canada's expertise in data quality and confidentiality.

The Statistical Infrastructure Program will continue to adapt to evolving technological and methodological needs. For example, the agency is exploring a prototype system for small area estimation to produce estimates for small geographic areas by combining survey estimates and administrative data using data models. Over the past years, in-depth evaluations were undertaken using the prototype and a number of large-scale surveys. As a result, the system has been used as part of the household wealth distribution tables, and further integration into the agency's programs is being examined.

All risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report are applicable to this program.

Planned results

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
An infrastructure of statistical services and activities is administered to support an effective statistical system	Percentage of programs directly supported by methodology services	100%	March 2018	80%	100%	100%
An infrastructure of statistical services and activities is administered to support an effective statistical system	Percentage of programs using statistical infrastructure services	100%	March 2018	100%	100%	100%
An infrastructure of statistical services and activities is administered to support an effective statistical system	Percentage of programs using operational statistical services	100%	March 2018	81%	100%	100%

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
120,393,991	120,393,991	93,066,264	86,758,045

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
888	873	865

The decrease in planned spending and FTEs from 2017–18 is mainly related to the funding profile of an out-of-court settlement. The settlement is related to pay equity for employees of Statistical Survey Operations (SSO) for the period covering 1985 to 2013. The settlement will see retroactive wage adjustment payments made to current and former employees of SSO, which will take place during 2017–18 and 2018–19.

Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services

Description

Through the Cost-recovered Statistical Services program, Statistics Canada produces on-demand, high-quality, cost-recovered statistical services that meet specific needs of federal, provincial and territorial institutions and other clients that are not met by the core statistical program.

Planning highlights

The Cost-recovered Statistical Services program ensures that Statistics Canada remains relevant and responsive to the emerging needs of policy makers and others by providing services to clients, including other federal government departments and agencies, on a cost-recovery basis. In 2017–18, this program will support government priorities, including a clean growth economy and growth for the middle class.

Cost-recovery activities include custom surveys and non-survey projects that will produce new statistical information and analysis. Outputs, such as microdata linkages and the integration of various data sources, will close data gaps, support the work priorities of policy departments and help measure program outcomes.

Custom surveys

Custom surveys include surveys on cybersecurity, core public infrastructure, regulatory compliance, clean energy and public transit, job vacancies and wages, and Canadians with disabilities.

Research based on accurate and reliable information supports innovation and open government. It also contributes to the development of evidence-based policies that foster the well-being of Canadians and a healthy Canadian economy. Therefore, the agency is committed to ensuring that academics and policy researchers can use Statistics Canada data to their fullest potential.

Statistics Canada's microdata access programs have proven to be effective in promoting social science, health and economic research on Canadian themes using Canadian data sources. As a result, starting in 2017–18, these programs will increase the number and types of data files available for research through the Data Liberation Initiative, real-time remote access, the Canadian Centre for Data Development and Economic Research, research data centres and the Federal Research Data Centre. Real-time remote access will be enhanced to perform better and be easier to use. The agency offers a range of access to data files, while protecting confidentiality and safeguarding privacy.

Global Affairs Canada is sponsoring Statistics Canada to provide international technical assistance to the Caribbean region and Senegal. In the Caribbean, the agency is working with 14

countries to enhance the regional systems of national accounts, to develop an infrastructure for business and household surveys, and to improve data dissemination and the sharing of expertise.

In Senegal, Statistics Canada will conduct a series of statistical technical assistance and capacity-building missions to improve statistical governance; produce and communicate key, high-quality socio-economic indicators; and promote the use of statistics through inclusive, results-based policy. In addition, the agency will continue to contribute to the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century[2], which promotes the implementation of statistical legislation and internationally recognized best practices in data collection and analysis.

In 2017, Statistics Canada will conduct the triennial Public Service Employee Survey on behalf of the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. The 2017 survey will cover the opinions of employees on engagement, the workplace, the workforce and leadership, and will provide new information on employee mental health.

As part of its core activities, the Cost-recovered Statistical Services Program produces statistical services to meet the specific needs of clients. In the coming year, it will continue to customize survey and analytical studies, as well as to produce custom data requests for clients, ensuring that it remains relevant and responsive to their information needs. The program will also integrate lessons learned into its planning activities.

All risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report are applicable to this program.

[2] The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) is a global partnership of national, regional, and international statisticians, analysts, policy-makers, development professionals, and other users of statistics. The PARIS21 Consortium was established as a global forum and network to promote, influence, and facilitate statistical capacity development and the better use of statistics.

Planned results

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Government policy makers, institutions and private sector clients use Statistics Canada's cost recovery services.	Value of cost-recovery contracts conducted by Statistics Canada - Statistical Surveys and Related Services	$102,891,203	March 2018	$74,066,406	$71,790,433	$89,956,980
Government policy makers, institutions and private sector clients use Statistics Canada's cost recovery services.	Value of cost-recovery contracts conducted by Statistics Canada - Custom Requests and Workshops	$3,928,570	March 2018	$5,015,619	$5,074,983	$4,385,410
Government, universities, other institutions and private sector clients have access to the appropriate service providing access to microdata files that meets their needs.	Number of post-secondary institutions, governmental and other organizations receiving access to microdata files	110	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*

Expected results	Performance indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	2013–14 Actual results	2014–15 Actual results	2015–16 Actual results
Government, institutions and private sector clients have access to available, microdata files subject to confidentiality and privacy controls, as well as public use microdata files to meet their information needs as requested through the Research Data Centres, the Federal Research Data Centre, Real-Time Remote Access, the Data Liberation Initiative and the Access to PUMFs collection.	Number of cycles of microdata files and public use microdata files available to Canadian post-secondary institutions, research data centres and other institutions.	2,050	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*
Government policy makers, institutions and private sector clients use the services for data capture and imaging, coding and access to Statistics Canada's microdata files, customized to meet their needs.	Percentage of Collection Operation Service Agreements (COSA) components that are met (cost recovery)	90%	March 2018	Not available*	Not available*	Not available*

* Actual Results identified as Not available, means the indicator did not exist for that fiscal year.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)*

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
124,585,384	124,585,384	124,585,384	124,585,384

*Note: Budgetary Financial Resources for Planned Spending include respendable revenue. Totals may differ within and between tables because of rounding.

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
1,010	1,010	1,010

The agency's statistical program is funded from two sources: direct parliamentary appropriations and cost-recovery activities. Statistics Canada plans to generate approximately $124 million in funding over the next three years (including both respendable revenue, approximately $112 million, and statutory funding approximately $12.5 million).

Information on Statistics Canada's lower-level programs is available on Statistics Canada's website[xiii] and in the TBS InfoBase.[xiv]

Internal Services

Description

Internal Services are those groups of related activities and resources that the federal government considers to be services in support of programs and/or required to meet corporate obligations of an organization. Internal Services refers to the activities and resources of the 10 distinct service categories that support Program delivery in the organization, regardless of the Internal Services delivery model in a department. The 10 service categories are: Management and Oversight Services; Communications Services; Legal Services; Human Resources Management Services; Financial Management Services; Information Management Services; Information Technology Services; Real Property Services; Materiel Services; and Acquisition Services.

Planning highlights

One of Statistics Canada's main priorities is to make internal services as efficient as possible to ensure that a larger share of available resources is used by statistical programs. While the agency is highly cost effective in its delivery of internal services, it has developed a number of strategies to continue increasing efficiencies, including modernizing the information technology infrastructure and adopting common tools and processes for these services.

Statistics Canada will continue to leverage technology to increase the efficiency of internal services processes based on the success of past initiatives. For example, in 2015-16, the agency launched an electronic workflow tool and by 2016-17, all eligible forms were migrated to the new tool, eliminating 97% of all paper-based processes.

One of the government's priorities is to develop a set of common tools to deliver core internal services. To align with this priority, in 2017–18, Statistics Canada will begin to implement GCDOCS in phases. GCDOCS is a new electronic document and records management system that will allow the agency to keep records and manage electronic information in a way that is consistent with the rest of the public service. The agency will continue to work closely with the Treasury Board Secretariat to develop plans for implementing common financial and human resources management tools and processes in the coming years.

Statistics Canada is working in close collaboration with Shared Services Canada on a plan to migrate the agency's data holdings to a modern, state-of-the-art enterprise data centre. Integral to this plan are the further strengthening of overall security and the protection of critical informatics technology from cyber threats.

Statistics Canada is committed to providing a safe, healthy and inclusive work environment to foster further collaboration, experimentation and work–life balance. Aligned with Blueprint 2020

objectives, the agency will adopt new technologies in 2017–18 and plan for a modern, flexible and mobile workforce that reflects the labour market expectations of today and the future.

The Census made use of proactive social marketing practices to encourage all Canadians to self-enumerate. The strategy leveraged a multi-mode approach and deployed behavioural economics to target populations that have proven more difficult to enumerate in the past. This approach helped to make this the most efficient census ever conducted in Canada or abroad. Almost 9 in 10 households completed the census without assistance from Statistics Canada staff. The significant success with this endeavour will inform the agency's communications strategies going forward.

Only the first of the risks noted in the "Key risks" section of this report is applicable to this program.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
64,907,612	64,907,612	64,594,631	64,754,098

Human resources (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

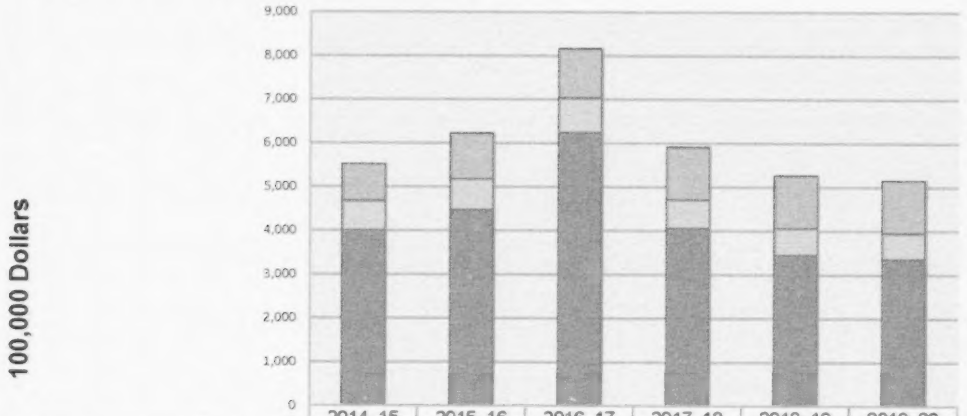
2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
591	587	589

The changes in planned spending and FTEs from 2017–18 to subsequent years mainly represent changes in temporary allocations from the Statistical Infrastructure program.

Spending and human resources

Planned spending

Departmental spending trend graph



	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
Cost Recovery (Netted Revenue)	843	1,043	1,129	1,200	1,200	1,200
Sunset Programs – Anticipated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory	666	708	795	655	608	601
Voted	4,006	4,467	6,233	4,056	3,449	3,349
Total	5,515	6,219	8,156	5,911	5,257	5,150

Note: Totals may differ within and between tables because of rounding.

As shown in the graph, voted spending peaked in 2016–17 when the agency conducted the 2016 Census of Population and the 2016 Census of Agriculture, followed by a significant decrease in 2017–18 as these activities begin to wind down. A typical census cycle covers a minimum seven year period with cycles overlapping.

Statistics Canada's statutory spending relates to the Employee Benefit Plan which is a function of planned salary spending and therefore fluctuates along with the voted spending.

Statistics Canada has the authority to generate $120 million annually in respendable revenue from cost recovery activities.

Not as apparent in the graph due to the fluctuations in Census funding, is an increase in 2017–18 and 2018–19 in spending related to an out-of-court settlement for pay equity for Statistical Survey Operations. In addition, voted authorities include funding for the Survey of Financial Security, enhancing Canada's financial and wealth statistics for improved financial system surveillance and economic policy development, for which the funding becomes permanent in 2021–22.

Budgetary planning summary for Programs and Internal Services (dollars)

Programs (or Core Responsibilities) and Internal Services	2014–15 Expenditures	2015–16 Expenditures	2016–17 Forecast spending	2017–18 Main Estimates	2017–18 Planned spending	2018–19 Planned spending	2019–20 Planned spending
Economic and Environmental Statistics	132,627,053	130,488,036	132,297,756	129,398,587	129,398,587	129,318,027	129,336,901
Socio-economic Statistics	100,399,795	101,784,521	102,890,520	99,153,760	99,153,760	98,621,712	101,281,556
Censuses	69,835,205	143,002,356	302,871,917	52,610,877	52,610,877	15,534,420	8,306,574
Statistical Infrastructure	116,399,563	87,473,605	91,329,349	120,393,990	120,393,991	93,066,264	86,758,045
Cost-recovered Statistical Services	76,333,208	96,359,919	104,899,357	124,585,384	124,585,384	124,585,384	124,585,384
Subtotal	**495,594,824**	**559,108,437**	**734,288,898**	**526,142,598**	**526,142,598**	**461,125,807**	**450,268,460**
Internal Services	55,940,845	62,786,663	81,350,337	64,907,612	64,907,612	64,594,631	64,754,098
Total gross expenditures	**551,535,669**	**621,895,100**	**815,639,236**	**591,050,210**	**591,050,210**	**525,720,437**	**515,022,558**
Respendable revenue	-84,333,208	-104,334,535	-112,873,972	-120,000,000	-120,000,000	-120,000,000	-120,000,000
Total net expenditures	**467,202,461**	**517,560,565**	**702,765,263**	**471,050,210**	**471,050,210**	**405,720,437**	**395,022,558**

Note: Totals may differ within and between tables because of rounding.

Statistics Canada is funded from two sources: direct parliamentary appropriations and cost recovery activities. Statistics Canada has the authority to generate $120 million annually in respendable revenue related to two streams: statistical surveys and related services, and custom requests and workshops. A large portion of these respendable revenues comes from federal departments to fund specific statistical projects.

Spending fluctuations between all years presented in the above table results mainly from the Census program, for which activity peaked in 2016–17 when the 2016 Census of Population and the 2016 Census of Agriculture were conducted, and drop sharply in 2017–18 and 2018–19 as these activities begin to wind down. This pattern is typical for the agency due to the cyclical nature of the Census program. Funding for the 2021 Census of Population and the 2021 Census of Agriculture has not yet been approved which amplifies the decrease in the overall Census program funding.

Spending on Internal Services is forecasted to temporarily increase in 2016–17 as the agency makes investments such as modernizing the work environment to offset current government wide space pressures and to facilitate increased mobility for staff.

The Statistical Infrastructure program will receive an injection of funds in 2017–18 to resolve an out-of-court settlement with Statistical Survey Operations regarding pay equity, which will then wind down in 2018–19.

In addition, funding for the Survey of Financial Security and the annual household wealth distribution tables decreases from 2016–17 to 2017–18, remains relatively the same in 2018–19 and then increases to 2016–17 levels in 2019–20. Funding to enhance Canada's financial and wealth statistics for improved financial system surveillance and economic policy development was introduced through the supplementary estimates process in 2016–17 and remains relatively consistent until 2021–22 at which time it becomes on-going funding.

See Statistics Canada's Departmental Performance Reports[xv] for additional details on year-over-year variances between 2014–15 and 2015–16 expenditures.

Planned human resources

Human resources planning summary for Programs and Internal Services (full-time equivalents or FTEs)

Programs (or Core Responsibilities) and Internal Services	2014–15 FTEs	2015–16 FTEs	2016–17 Forecast FTEs	2017–18 Planned FTEs	2018–19 Planned FTEs	2019–20 Planned FTEs
Economic and Environmental Statistics	1,226	1,384	1,383	1,376	1,373	1,372
Socio-economic Statistics	706	1,136	1,111	1,096	1,090	1,112
Censuses	576	1,087	1,525	497	136	55
Statistical Infrastructure	1,117	954	910	888	873	865
Cost-recovered Statistical Services	562	1,013	979	1,010	1,010	1,010
Subtotal	**4,188**	**5,573**	**5,908**	**4,867**	**4,481**	**4,414**
Internal Services	571	586	590	591	587	589
Total gross expenditures	**4,758**	**6,160**	**6,498**	**5,458**	**5,068**	**5,003**
Respendable revenue	-635	-1,074	-1,012	-1,016	-1,067	-1,061
Total net expenditures	**4,123**	**5,086**	**5,485**	**4,442**	**4,001**	**3,942**

Note: Totals may differ within and between tables because of rounding.

Similar to trends seen in planned spending, FTE changes from year to year are largely explained by the cyclical nature of the Census program. Activity peaked in 2016–17 for the 2016 Census of Population and the 2016 Census of Agriculture and drops sharply in 2017–18 and 2018–19 as these activities begin to wind down.

The majority of the funds received by the agency for the resolution of an out-of-court settlement relate to retroactive payments and therefore have a minimal impact on the total FTEs.

Included in net expenditures FTEs are approximately 210 public servant FTEs based across Canada outside the National Capital Region. Also included are approximately 950 interviewer FTEs (which represents approximately 1,800 interviewers) outside the National Capital Region. These interviewers are part-time workers whose assigned workweeks are determined by the

volume of collection work available; they are hired under the Statistics Act, by the authority of the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development. Interviewers are covered by two separate collective agreements, and are employed through Statistical Survey Operations. Many of Statistics Canada's main outputs rely heavily on data collection and on the administration of these activities, which takes place in the regions.

Estimates by vote

For information on Statistics Canada's organizational appropriations, consult the 2017–18 Main Estimates.[xvi]

Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations

The Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations provides a general overview of Statistics Canada's operations. The forecast of financial information on expenses and revenues is prepared on an accrual accounting basis to strengthen accountability and to improve transparency and financial management.

Because the Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations is prepared on an accrual accounting basis, and the forecast and planned spending amounts presented in other sections of the Departmental Plan are prepared on an expenditure basis, amounts may differ.

A more detailed Future-Oriented Statement of Operations[xvii] and associated notes, including a reconciliation of the net cost of operations to the requested authorities, are available on Statistics Canada's website.

Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations
For the year ended March 31 (dollars)

Financial information	2016–17 Forecast results	2017–18 Planned results	Difference (2017–18 Planned results minus 2016–17 Forecast results)
Total expenses	893,255,689	655,471,996	(237,783,693)
Total revenues	112,873,972	102,273,567	(10,600,405)
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	**780,381,717**	**553,198,429**	**(227,183,288)**

The decrease in planned expenses for 2017–18 is mainly explained by a decrease in the funding received for the 2016 Census of Population Program and the Census of Agriculture Program.

The decrease in the planned revenues for 2017–18 is related to a change in presentation method. If the same methodology was to be applied to the fiscal year 2016–17, total revenues would be seen to be stable.

The difference between the Main Estimates amounts and these Future-Oriented Condensed Statement of Operations planned results is mainly caused by the inclusion of accrual entries, such as services provided without charge to Statistics Canada by other organizations, and forecasts related to carry forward, refundable salaries and amortization entries.

Supplementary information

Corporate information

Organizational profile

Appropriate minister: The Honourable Navdeep Bains, P.C., M.P.

Institutional head: Anil Arora

Ministerial portfolio: Innovation, Science and Economic Development

Enabling instruments:

- Statistics Act[xviii]
- Corporations Returns Act[xix]
- Corporations Returns Regulations[xx]

Year of incorporation/commencement: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics was established in 1918. In 1971, with the revision of the Statistics Act, the agency became Statistics Canada.

Other: Under the Statistics Act, Statistics Canada is required to collect, compile, analyze, abstract and publish statistical information relating to the commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic and general activities and conditions of the people of Canada.

Statistics Canada has two primary objectives:

- to provide statistical information and analysis of the economic and social structure and functioning of Canadian society, as a basis for developing, operating and evaluating public policies and programs; for public and private decision making; and for the general benefit of all Canadians
- to promote the quality, coherence and international comparability of Canada's statistics through collaboration with other federal departments and agencies, with the provinces and territories, and in accordance with sound scientific standards and practices.

Statistics Canada's head office is located in Ottawa. There are regional offices across the country in Halifax, Sherbrooke, Montréal, Toronto, Sturgeon Falls, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver. There are also 27 research data centres located throughout the country. These centres provide researchers with access to microdata from population and household survey programs in a secure university setting. Canadians can follow the agency on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

Reporting framework

Statistics Canada's Strategic Outcomes and Program Alignment Architecture for 2017–18 are shown below.

Strategic Outcome 1: Canadians have access to timely, relevant and quality statistical information on Canada's changing economy and society for informed debate, research and decision making on social and economic issues.

Program 1: Economic and Environmental Statistics
- **Sub-program 1.1:** Macroeconomic Accounts
- **Sub-program 1.2:** Industry Statistics
- **Sub-program 1.3:** Economy-wide Business Statistics
- **Sub-program 1.4:** Environmental Statistics
- **Sub-program 1.5:** Analysis of Economic and Environmental Statistics

Program 2: Socio-economic Statistics
- **Sub-program 2.1:** Labour, Education, Income and Tourism Statistics
- **Sub-program 2.2:** Health and Justice Statistics
- **Sub-program 2.3:** Demographic, Aboriginal and other Social Statistics
- **Sub-program 2.4:** Analysis of Socio-economic Statistics

Program 3: Censuses
- **Sub-program 3.1:** Census of Population Program
- **Sub-program 3.2:** Census of Agriculture

Program 4: Statistical Infrastructure
- **Sub-program 4.1:** Professional Statistical Services
- **Sub-program 4.2:** Operational Statistical Services
- **Sub-program 4.3:** Continuity and Quality Maintenance Program

Strategic Outcome 2: Specific client needs for high-quality and timely statistical services are met.

Program 5: Cost-recovered Statistical Services
- **Sub-program 5.1:** Cost-recovered Services related to Economic and Environmental Statistics
- **Sub-program 5.2:** Cost-recovered Services related to Socio-economic Statistics
- **Sub-program 5.3:** Cost-recovered Services related to the Censuses
- **Sub-program 5.4:** Cost-recovered Services related to Statistical Infrastructure

Internal Services

Supporting information on lower-level programs

Supporting information on lower-level programs is available on Statistics Canada's website[xxi] and in the TBS InfoBase.[xxii]

Supplementary information tables

The following supplementary information tables are available on Statistics Canada's website[xxiii]:

- Upcoming evaluations over the next five fiscal years
- Upcoming internal audits for the coming fiscal year

Federal tax expenditures

The tax system can be used to achieve public policy objectives through the application of special measures such as low tax rates, exemptions, deductions, deferrals and credits. The Department of Finance Canada publishes cost estimates and projections for these measures each year in the Report on Federal Tax Expenditures.[xxiv] This report also provides detailed background information on tax expenditures, including descriptions, objectives, historical information and references to related federal spending programs. The tax measures presented in this report are the responsibility of the Minister of Finance.

Organizational contact information

Email
STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca

Telephone
1-800-263-1136 or 613-951-8116

Fax
1-877-287-4369 or 613-951-0581

TTY
1-800-363-7629

Mail
Statistics Canada
150 Tunney's Pasture Driveway
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0T6

Website
www.statcan.gc.ca

Appendix: definitions

administrative data (données administratives)

Administrative data are information that is collected by other government agencies and private sector companies for their own purposes, which is then used by Statistics Canada to efficiently accomplish its mandated objectives.

appropriation (crédit)

Any authority of Parliament to pay money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

budgetary expenditures (dépenses budgétaires)

Operating and capital expenditures; transfer payments to other levels of government, organizations or individuals; and payments to Crown corporations.

Core Responsibility (responsabilité essentielle)

An enduring function or role performed by a department. The intentions of the department with respect to a Core Responsibility are reflected in one or more related Departmental Results that the department seeks to contribute to or influence.

crowdsourcing (approche participative)

Crowdsourcing is the process of getting work or funding, usually online, from a crowd of people. The word is a combination of the words 'crowd' and 'outsourcing'. The idea is to take work and outsource it to a crowd of workers. Wikipedia is an example of a project undertaken by means of crowdsourcing.

Departmental Plan (Plan ministériel)

Provides information on the plans and expected performance of appropriated departments over a three-year period. Departmental Plans are tabled in Parliament each spring.

Departmental Result (résultat ministériel)

A Departmental Result represents the change or changes that the department seeks to influence. A Departmental Result is often outside departments' immediate control, but it should be influenced by program-level outcomes.

Departmental Result Indicator (indicateur de résultat ministériel)

A factor or variable that provides a valid and reliable means to measure or describe progress on a Departmental Result.

Departmental Results Framework (cadre ministériel des résultats)

Consists of the department's Core Responsibilities, Departmental Results and Departmental Result Indicators.

Departmental Results Report (Rapport sur les résultats ministériels)

Provides information on the actual accomplishments against the plans, priorities and expected results set out in the corresponding Departmental Plan.

full-time equivalent (équivalent temps plein)

A measure of the extent to which an employee represents a full person-year charge against a departmental budget. Full-time equivalents are calculated as a ratio of assigned hours of work to scheduled hours of work. Scheduled hours of work are set out in collective agreements.

government-wide priorities (priorités pangouvernementales)

For the purpose of the 2017–18 Departmental Plan, government-wide priorities refers to those high-level themes outlining the government's agenda in the 2015 Speech from the Throne, namely: Growth for the Middle Class; Open and Transparent Government; A Clean Environment and a Strong Economy; Diversity is Canada's Strength; and Security and Opportunity.

horizontal initiatives (initiative horizontale)

A horizontal initiative is one in which two or more federal organizations, through an approved funding agreement, work toward achieving clearly defined shared outcomes, and which has been designated (e.g. by Cabinet, a central agency, etc.) as a horizontal initiative for managing and reporting purposes.

Management, Resources and Results Structure (Structure de la gestion, des ressources et des résultats)

A comprehensive framework that consists of an organization's inventory of programs, resources, results, performance indicators and governance information. Programs and results are depicted in their hierarchical relationship to each other and to the Strategic Outcome(s) to which they contribute. The Management, Resources and Results Structure is developed from the Program Alignment Architecture.

non-budgetary expenditures (dépenses non budgétaires)

Net outlays and receipts related to loans, investments and advances, which change the composition of the financial assets of the Government of Canada.

performance (rendement)

What an organization did with its resources to achieve its results, how well those results compare to what the organization intended to achieve, and how well lessons learned have been identified.

Performance indicator (indicateur de rendement)

A qualitative or quantitative means of measuring an output or outcome, with the intention of gauging the performance of an organization, program, policy or initiative respecting expected results.

Performance reporting (production de rapports sur le rendement)

The process of communicating evidence-based performance information. Performance reporting supports decision making, accountability and transparency.

planned spending (dépenses prévues)

For Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports, planned spending refers to those amounts that receive Treasury Board approval by February 1. Therefore, planned spending may include amounts incremental to planned expenditures presented in the Main Estimates.

A department is expected to be aware of the authorities that it has sought and received. The determination of planned spending is a departmental responsibility, and departments must be able to defend the expenditure and accrual numbers presented in their Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports.

plans (plan)

The articulation of strategic choices, which provides information on how an organization intends to achieve its priorities and associated results. Generally a plan will explain the logic behind the strategies chosen and tend to focus on actions that lead up to the expected result.

Priorities (priorité)

Plans or projects that an organization has chosen to focus and report on during the planning period. Priorities represent the things that are most important or what must be done first to support the achievement of the desired Strategic Outcome(s).

program (programme)

A group of related resource inputs and activities that are managed to meet specific needs and to achieve intended results and that are treated as a budgetary unit.

Program Alignment Architecture (architecture d'alignement des programmes)
A structured inventory of an organization's programs depicting the hierarchical relationship between programs and the Strategic Outcome(s) to which they contribute.

results (résultat)
An external consequence attributed, in part, to an organization, policy, program or initiative. Results are not within the control of a single organization, policy, program or initiative; instead they are within the area of the organization's influence.

statutory expenditures (dépenses législatives)
Expenditures that Parliament has approved through legislation other than appropriation acts. The legislation sets out the purpose of the expenditures and the terms and conditions under which they may be made.

Strategic Outcome (résultat stratégique)
A long-term and enduring benefit to Canadians that is linked to the organization's mandate, vision and core functions.

sunset program (programme temporisé)
A time-limited program that does not have an ongoing funding and policy authority. When the program is set to expire, a decision must be made whether to continue the program. In the case of a renewal, the decision specifies the scope, funding level and duration.

target (cible)
A measurable performance or success level that an organization, program or initiative plans to achieve within a specified time period. Targets can be either quantitative or qualitative.

voted expenditures (dépenses votées)
Expenditures that Parliament approves annually through an Appropriation Act. The Vote wording becomes the governing conditions under which these expenditures may be made.

web scraping (moissonnage Web)
Web scraping is data scraping used for extracting data from websites. While web scraping can be done manually by a software user, the term typically refers to automated processes implemented using a bot or web crawler. It is a form of copying, in which specific data is gathered and copied from the web, typically into a central local database or spreadsheet, for later retrieval or analysis.

Endnotes

i. Many applications of statistical information, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/used
ii. Statistics Act, http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/S-19/FullText.html
iii. Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/video/fpos
iv. Ministers' mandate letters, http://pm.gc.ca/eng/mandate-letters
v. Minister's mandate letter, http://pm.gc.ca/eng/minister-innovation-science-and-economic-development-mandate-letter
vi. Budget 2016, http://www.budget.gc.ca/2016/docs/plan/toc-tdm-en.html
vii. Audit of the Canadian Centre for Data Development and Economic Research (CDER), http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/audit/pn-80590-92
viii. Audit of Justice Statistics, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/audit/pn-80590-89
ix. Evaluation of the Demography, Aboriginal and Other Social Statistics Program, 2010-2011 to 2012-2013, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/er/daossp
x. Evaluation of the Labour, Education, Income and Tourism Programs 2010-2011 to 2012-2013, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/er/leit
xi. Evaluation of the Census of Population Program, (2009/2010 to 2014/2015), http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/er/cpp
xii. Evaluation of the Census of Agriculture Program, (2009/2010 to 2013/2014), http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/er/cap
xiii. Lower-level programs, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/dp/2017-2018/s09p01
xiv. TBS InfoBase, https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/ems-sgd/edb-bdd/index-eng.html#start
xv. Statistics Canada's Departmental Performance Reports, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/reports2
xvi. 2017–18 Main Estimates, http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hgw-cgf/finances/pgs-pdg/gepme-pdgbpd/index-eng.asp
xvii. Future-oriented statement of operations, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/dp/2017-2018/s08p01
xviii. Statistics Act, http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/S-19/FullText.html
xix. Corporations Returns Act, http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-43/FullText.html
xx. Corporations Returns Regulations, http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2014-13/index.html
xxi. Lower-level programs, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/dp/2017-2018/s09p01
xxii. TBS InfoBase, https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/ems-sgd/edb-bdd/index-eng.html#start
xxiii. Supplementary information tables, http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/about/dp/2017-2018/s09p02
xxiv. Report on Federal Tax Expenditures, http://www.fin.gc.ca/purl/taxexp-eng.asp